

**AGENCY:** ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

**TITLE:** Trace Gases in the Global Atmosphere: Effects on Ozone and Climate

**ACTION:** Request for Proposals (RFP)

**RFA NO:** EPA-OAR-SPD-06-05

**CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NO:** 66.034

**SUMMARY:** Formal Agency responses to questions/comments regarding the subject solicitation.

**DATE:** July 11, 2007

**Question 1:** Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) is a NASA center staffed and managed for the government by a university (Caltech). Is JPL eligible to submit a proposal under this solicitation?

**Answer 1:** National laboratories associated with the federal government, such as the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) managed for NASA by the California Institute of Technology, may be ineligible. These laboratories are typically operated by contractors, who would be ineligible to receive a grant. The California Institute of Technology is eligible to submit a proposal as a private university.

**Question 2:** How long will EPA accept questions on this solicitation?

**Answer 2:** EPA will accept questions on this solicitation through the RFP closing date.

**Question 3:** Does the solicitation involve analyzing brominated or halogenated substances?

**Answer 3:** Yes – and other types of substances. Basically, the grantee will review emission scenarios of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol and their substitutes. The Stratospheric Protection Division within EPA is tasked with restoring the ozone layer and we want to add to the body of public knowledge on when and how the ozone layer will recover. Eligible applicants can look at the World Meteorological Organization's recent Science Assessment report to get a feel for the latest on ozone layer depletion/recovery.

**Question 4:** How much total funding is expected to be available for this program in 2007?

**Answer 4:** Between \$50k and \$100k.

**Question 5:** How many awards are expected to be made and are there individual award limits?

**Answer 5:** One award.

**Question 6:** How much total funding was available in the previous year and how many awards were made?

**Answer 6:** No award was made in 2006.

**Question 7:** Are matching funds required for this program? If an applicant is able to provide matching funds, will this be taken into consideration in the review process? Is there a preference for cash or in-kind contributions?

**Answer 7:** Matching funds are not required for this program. Cost sharing/matching/participation will not be considered in the evaluation of proposals.

**Question 8:** Since different types of entities are eligible for this program, which types tend to receive funds or submit an application (i.e., nonprofits, academic institutions, public agencies, etc)?

**Answer 8:** Proposals will be accepted from States, local governments, territories, Indian Tribes, and possessions of the U.S., including the District of Columbia, international organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, other public or private non-profit organizations, as defined by OMB Circular A-122.

**Question 9:** Does this program tend to be competitive in terms of requests made and those actually funded?

**Answer 9:** No.

**Question 10:** Could you please explain in a little more detail what is required regarding budget information. I know that a budget form will need to be filled out in grants.gov, and I understand that fully. But what I'm not clear on is in section C. Content of Application Submission, #2 a. "viii. Budget and estimated funding amounts for each work component/task. This section provides an opportunity for narrative description of the budget or aspects of the budget found in the SF-424A such as "other" and "contractual". Won't this information already be covered in the budget narrative mentioned in the same section C. under 3. Detailed Budget Narrative/Funds Leveraging? When it asks us to "Clearly explain how EPA funds will be used.", isn't this the budget narrative part? Also, I'm not sure how to... "describe their ability to leverage funds." Should I include a spreadsheet anywhere in the budget narrative section, or will the grants.gov budget form be sufficient? Thanks for your help with this.

**Answer 11:** You are correct . The information requested in **Section IV.C. "Content of Application Submission, #2.a.(viii)**, where it reads, "*Budget and estimated funding*

*amounts for each work component/task. This section provides an opportunity for narrative description of the budget or aspects of the budget found in the SF-424A such as "other" and "contractual" is the same information requested in Section IV.C.#3 "Content of Application Submission, "Detailed Budget Narrative/Funds Leveraging". Both sections are requesting a detailed, itemized budget which provides information on costs associated with the applicant's proposed project. However, Section IV.C.#3 pertains to detailed budgets which may include leveraging (i.e., voluntary cost sharing/matching/participation) as part of their overall budget.*